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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

Letter dated 6 August 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee

With reference to aide-memoire 12/91 and Add.1 of 31 July 1991 and 6 August 1991, respectively, of the Special Committee concerning requests from persons as well as organizations to appear before the Special Committee as petitioners to speak about the so-called question of East Timor, I wish to convey the position of my delegation which is as follows.

The process of decolonization in East Timor has been carried out in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1542 (XV), thus terminating the colonial status of the former Territory. Consequently, the integration of East Timor into the Republic of Indonesia was formalized on 17 July 1976 as its twenty-seventh province with rights and obligations equal to those of the other provinces.

Based on the foregoing, my delegation reiterates its firm view that any consideration of this so-called question is inappropriate and would constitute unacceptable interference in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of a sovereign Member States. Moreover, granting of a hearing to any petitioner would serve no useful purpose whatsoever.

My delegation, therefore, expresses its strong opposition to the participation of petititioners in the deliberations of the Committee.

I would appreciate it if this letter could be circulated as an official document of the Special Committee.

(Signed) Nana S. SUTRESNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative